

***CURCULIO STRIATULUS*, A NORTH AMERICAN *PISSODES* (COLEOPTERA: CURCULIONIDAE)¹**

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ABSTRACT: Study of the type of *Curculio striatulus* Fabricius, 1775 from the Banks Collection shows that it is conspecific with and thus a senior synonym of *Pissodes dubius* Randall, 1838 [NEW SYNONYMY].

Among the many species of weevils described in the genus *Curculio* in the early years of modern taxonomy, there are a number of names which have become *nomina dubia*. Many of these ceased to be reported in revisions and catalogs in the mid-1800's. Schoenherr (1845) recorded many *Curculio*, *Rhynchaenus* and *Lixus* not known to him, with a list of citations for these species, and in most cases this was the last citation of these names. Included among them is *Curculio striatulus* Fabricius, 1775 which was described from "insula Terre neuve Americae" [Newfoundland]. This species is cited as *Rhynchaenus striatus* (Fabricius, 1775), and is not to be confused with *Curculio striatus* Fabricius (1787), a species from Africa. The type of *C. striatulus* is in the Banks Collection in the British Museum (Natural History) and has been studied by both authors of this paper.

In 1962, the junior author was asked for his opinion on the current name and status of *C. striatulus* by the late Miss Avril Lysaght, who was preparing an account of Sir Joseph Banks' visit to Newfoundland and Labrador. He recognized the specimen as a *Pissodes* and later decided that it was conspecific with *P. fraseri* Hopkins (1911) from North Carolina, then considered a valid species. This information was duly published (Lysaght, 1971: 405). At that point it seemed that either the specimen had been changed or the type locality was incorrect. Recently, the senior author studied the type and independently identified it as a female of *P. dubius* Randall (1838), currently recognized as the senior synonym of *P. fraseri* and *P. piperi* Hopkins (1911). Hence the valid name of this species is *Pissodes striatulus* (Fabricius). Because this name has been omitted from catalogs, a list of citations and a complete synonymy is appended here.

¹Received May 3, 1986, Accepted June 2, 1986.

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***Pissodes striatulus* (Fabricius), NEW COMBINATION**

Curculio striatulus Fabricius 1775, p. 129; 1781, p. 163; 1787, p. 97; 1792, p. 398 (as *striatus*, not Fabricius 1787); 1801, p. 439 (as *striatus*, not Fabricius 1787). Gmelin 1790, p. 1746. Herbst 1795, p. 440. Olivier 1790, p. 476.

Rhynchaenus striatulus (Fabricius). Fabricius 1803, p. 83. Olivier 1807, p. 114. Schoenherr 1845, p. 289.

Pissodes dubius Randall 1838, p. 24, New Synonymy

Pissodes fraseri Hopkins 1911, p. 63, New Synonymy

Pissodes piperi Hopkins 1911, p. 62, New Synonymy

The type specimen is a female measuring 8.0 mm in length (excluding rostrum). It bears a label with: "Curc: striatulus. [ms] / Fab. Entom. p. [printed] 129. n. 9. [ms]". The "ms" parts of this label are in Banks' handwriting. Beside the specimen is a small card with "Type" in C.O. Waterhouse's hand. Banks, who was in his 24th year, spent several months at St. Johns, Newfoundland, in 1766. In his diary he makes few references to specific insects but records "collecting insects" at the beginning of August, shortly before moving on to Labrador (Lysaght, 1971).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The junior author wishes to thank Ms. Rose Ella Warner-Spilman (formerly of U.S.D.A., Washington) and Mrs. Anne T. Howden (Ottawa) for their early help with his investigation.

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BOOKS RECEIVED AND BRIEFLY NOTED

CATALOGUE OF PALEARCTIC DIPTERA. Vols. 11 and 12. A. Soos and L. Papp, eds. 1986. Elsevier Pub. 235 pp. (V. 11), 312 pp. (V. 12). \$101.75 each.

Two additions to 14 volume work that catalogues the main taxonomic nomenclatural and distribution data of 25,000 fly species described from Palaearctic region. Vol. 11 covers the families Scathophagidae to Hypodermatidae. Vol. 12 covers families Calliphoridae to Sarcophagidae.

COLOUR ATLAS OF INSECT TISSUES via the flea. M. Rothschild, Y. Schlein, S. Ito. 1986. Wolfe Pub., Ltd. (Methuen, Inc. in U.S.) 184 pp. \$79.95.

This large format volume (9½" x 10½") is a mixture of insect morphology, histology, and ultrastructure. It consists chiefly of 275 line illustrations and both black and white and color plates of light microscope photographs, electron micrographs, and stereo-scan photographs, all beautifully reproduced on coated stock. Other than figure legends, explanatory material is minimal.

FIRE ANTS AND LEAF-CUTTING ANTS, Biology and Management. C.S. Lofgren and R.K. Vander Meer, eds. 1986. Westview Press. 435 pp. \$45.

Thirty-four papers from the 1985 Research Conference on Fire Ants and Leaf-cutting Ants include discussions on the history and economics, biology and ecology, behavior, pheromones and other semiochemicals, physiology, biochemistry, and current and future control strategies of fire ants and leaf-cutting ants.